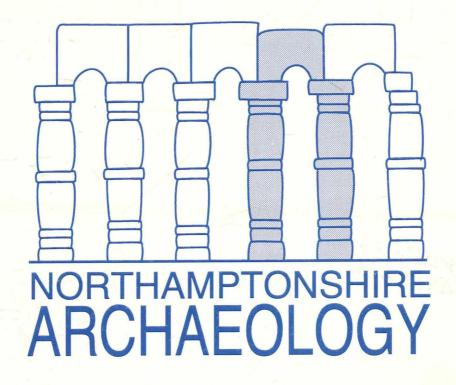


ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING OF

LAND TO THE NORTH OF WARDENTREE LANE,

PINCHBECK, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING OF

LAND TO THE NORTH OF WARDENTREE LANE,

PINCHBECK, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE

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# ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING ON LAND TO THE NORTH OF WARDENTREE LANE, PINCHBECK, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE

#### Abstract

Eight trial trenches and a small open area were excavated on land north of Wardentree Lane, Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincolnshire in advance of proposed industrial development. An earlier desk-based assessment had indicated a series of cropmarks on the site. Previous archaeological evaluation outside the site pointed to features of a medieval date or possibly earlier. A geophysical survey of the site revealed a series of possible field boundaries or enclosures.

The evaluation revealed a series of ditches, which appear to equate to the features revealed by the crop marks and geophysical results. The majority of the ditches did not produce any dating evidence, however, the pottery that was recovered was generally medieval and post-medieval in date. The accession code for the site is 2001.410.

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

Northamptonshire Archaeology was commissioned by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants on behalf of M Parker & Son Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land to the north of Wardentree Lane, Pinchbeck. It is proposed that the land should be redeveloped for industrial use (Planning Application Reference: H14/0613/01). The site is approximately 7ha in size and is situated to the east of Pinchbeck and to the west of Smedleys Food Factory. The Blue Gowt Drain forms the northern and western boundary to the site (NGR TF 2500 2520, Fig 1).

A desk-based assessment of the site (JSAC 2001) and a geophysical survey (GSB 2002) informed the work. The Senior Built Environment Officer, LCC indicated that trial excavation should be undertaken to determine if archaeological remains were present on the site and if so, to establish the character of these remains and whether they corresponded to an earlier evaluation in an adjacent field. In response a written scheme of investigation for trial trenching was prepared by JSAC. The objectives suggested by the specification were to:

- determine the nature, extent, state of preservation and importance of any archaeological remains which may exist;
- assess their potential for answering questions about the origins and development of Pinchbeck;
- \* assess the sites archaeological potential in order to allow the Local Planning Authority to make an informed decision regarding its suitability for development;
- where remains are of sufficient importance, to determine the best method by which these remains can be preserved.

Furthermore, several site-specific questions were deemed applicable:

- do the features shown on aerial photographs and geophysical survey exist and how reliable were the techniques used? If remains not identified by the survey are uncovered a consideration of the reasons why should be addressed;
- \* what are the dates for the features exposed, and
- ♦ how do they relate to elements in the landscape in particular the relationship with evaluation undertaken to the east of the site (SMR 23716)
- \* what activities do these features relate to
- \* what was the nature of the surrounding environment at the time of occupation?

#### 2 BACKGROUND

## 2.1 ARCHAEOLOGY

The desk-based assessment (JSAC 2001) identified three scheduled ancient monuments within the parish of Pinchbeck, although none of these fell within the boundaries of the site. These monuments were listed as settlement (SAM 216), Pinchbeck engine (SAM 248) and the moated site of Newhall Grange (SAM 20818).

Cropmarks recorded on the site include a double linear feature, which may represent a trackway or road, which follows the alignment of the present Wardentree Lane, in addition to linear features possibly signifying field boundaries and a small rectilinear enclosure.

Remains relating to salt making have been found in the vicinity (SMR 23591 & 23592), which have been tentatively associated with Romano-British pottery. However, they are also

located close to the medieval salt mounds at Pinchbeck Marsh and, therefore, a medieval date cannot be precluded.

A previous evaluation on land to the east of the site had identified a series of undated ditches, though possibly medieval or later, which may represent drainage and/or agricultural boundaries.

A medieval moated site positioned about 500 metres to the north of the site (SMR 20144) has since been converted into a Ha-ha.

## 2.2 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

The village of Pinchbeck, whilst being mentioned in the Domesday Book, is actually first referred to at a much earlier date. This was in a Charter made by the Laity in AD 810 in a grant of land to Siward, Abbot of Crowland and, later, in Royal Charters dating from AD 851 where Berhtwulf, king of Mercia, granted land to Siward, Abbot of Crowland and the abbey (JSAC 2001).

At the time of Domesday, Ivo Taillebois and Guy de Craon are listed as landowners, and the village is known as Pincebec, which is thought to mean "minnow stream".

Cartographic evidence suggests that the site has been part of the agrarian landscape surrounding Pinchbeck since at least 1763 (Ibid.).

#### 2.3 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The site covers an area of approximately 7ha, and lies at an altitude of c 3m AOD and is generally level. The Soil Survey for the area identifies the soils as being of the Wisbech Association, which are extensive around the fenlands in the Wash area (SSEW 1984). These soils are often associated with relatively late land reclamation. The drift geology of the area is marine and river alluvium. In Roman times this area would have formed part of the east coast and therefore would have been suitable for salt production.

## 3 EXCAVATION STRATEGY

Eight trenches and an open area were excavated within the development area (Fig 2). The trenches were positioned to intersect the anomalies and cropmarks identified by the geophysical survey and specification. The position of the trenches to locate the geophysical

anomalies were accurate, but the positions of those to locate the cropmarks were indicative.

All of the trenches were excavated using a JCB mechanical excavator, fitted with a 1.5m toothless ditching bucket, supervised at all times by an archaeologist. Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 6 measured 40m in length, whilst trench 5 measured 20m in length, trench 4 measured 70 metres in length and trenches 7 and 8 measured 50m in length. All of the trenches were 1.5 metres in width. The open area measured 20m square. Environmental advice was sought from James Rackham, who undertook a site visit on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2002. He advised against bulk sampling since no real dating evidence had been found within the ditches and there was no evidence for occupation in the vicinity. He further advised against phosphate sampling since it is not an ideal method in conjunction with trial trenching or within heavily fertilised fields.

#### 4 SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

All the trenches except trench 7 and the open area contained features. The features all consisted of relatively large ditches with similar homogeneous fills containing very little charcoal, pottery or other evidence of occupation in the vicinity. The trackway feature, observed as a linear cropmark aligned upon the present Wardentree Lane to the south of the application area was not revealed as anticipated in trench 1, but this may have been because it was obscured by an unanticipated north-south aligned ditch. The trackway feature was, however, exposed in trench 2 to the east. The enclosure was not revealed as predicted in trenches 3, 4 and the open area, although two ditches were exposed. The cropmark was not found in trench 7 as anticipated, this may indicate that the cropmark feature is geological in origin rather than archaeological.

## 5 TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

## 5.1 TRENCH 1 (FIGS 2,3 & 5)

This trench was aligned north-north-west to south-south-east, and was 40m long and 1.5m wide. It was excavated to a depth of c 0.6m, with a topsoil (1) consisting of a soft dark yellowish brown clay silt, with very occasional fragments of ceramic building material. This overlaid the subsoil (2), a dark orange brown clay silt, which in turn overlaid mottled mid orange brown alluvial silts (71). The trench was positioned to intercept two parallel ditches aligned approximately east-west, forming a possible trackway. However, a single ditch [36]

was revealed which was aligned north to south (Figs 3 & 5: Section 3 & 4, Plate 2). This ditch was U-shaped, measuring 1.5m wide and 0.68m deep. The ditch had two distinct phases, the uppermost fill (37), a mid orange brown fine sandy silt, while the primary fill (38) was a stiff mid brown grey silty clay with occasional blue mottling. A series of field drains had been placed within the matrix of the ditch, and appeared to follow its course, which implies the ditch had at least been partly visible until relatively recently. Three sherds of abraded pottery suggest a date ranging from the thirteenth to fifteenth centuries. A further sherd of very abraded pottery was tentatively dated to the Roman period. The condition of the pottery suggests that it may been subject to weathering before being deposited in the ditch, and can therefore only provide a terminus post quem for the date of the ditch. Brick recovered from (37) the upper fill of the ditch was dated to the Tudor to post-medieval period. This ditch may have formed a field boundary and although the Ordnance Survey map of 1906 (JSAC 2001) indicates that the field was divided into two at this time, the division appears to have been located further to the east of the site.

## 5.2 TRENCH 2 (FIGS 2, 3 & 5)

Trench 2 was aligned north-north-west by south-south-east and measured 40m long and 1.5m wide and was excavated to a depth of about 0.5m. The topsoil (57) was similar to trench 1, while the subsoil (58) was a dark yellowish brown silty clay. This overlaid a dark orange brown silty clay (72). This trench was located to intercept the double ditched "trackway" cropmark identified in the specification (JSAC 2002b). Two parallel ditches, [48] and [52], situated 14.5m apart and aligned approximately east to west were recovered from the trench, although closer together than the cropmark suggested. Ditch [48], located to the south of the trench, measured 2m wideand 0.8m deep (Fig 3 & 6: Section 13). Ditch [52], to the north, measured 2.65m wide and 0.85m deep (Fig 3). The profile of ditch [48] was a fairly shallow sided wide U-shape, and ditch [52], while possessing on ostensibly similar profile, had stepped edges. This may indicate episodic erosion and slumping. Both ditches were cut through the subsoil and contained three distinct fills consisting of compact dark orange brown or greyish brown clay silts, and had field drains laid along their lengths. No pottery was recovered from either of these ditches, although very small fragments of undatable ceramic building material were observed in the uppermost fills of both features.

# 5.3 TRENCH 3 (FIGS 2, 3 & 5)

Trench 3 was aligned north-north-west by south-south-east and measured 40m long and

1.5m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.65m. The topsoil, (59), measured between 0.3m and 0.4m in depth, was similar to that in trench 1 and overlaid subsoil (60), which measured between 0.1 and 0.2m in depth. This again was equivalent to that found in trench 1. The subsoil overlaid a mottled mid orange brown clay silt alluvium (73). This trench was positioned to intercept the northern and southern arms of an enclosure identified through the geophysical survey (GSB 2002) and by cropmarks (JSAC 2002b). However, only one ditch was identified, in the southern half of the trench, aligned approximately east-west. A posthole, [46], was also observed, situated 0.2 m to the south of the ditch. This contained the remnants of a modern timber post and hence was not excavated. The ditch consisted of two distinct phases (Figs 3 & 5: Section 1). The earliest phase, ditch [5], was 2.3m wide and about 0.65m deep and appeared to be sealed by the subsoil (60). The profile of the ditch formed a wide U-shape with fairly shallow edges. The single remaining fill consisted of a stiff mid grey brown silty clay with orange brown mottling. No finds were recovered from this ditch. It was later cut by ditch [3], which appeared to cut the subsoil, and therefore must have been substantially later than [5], although on a similar alignment. The profile of the later ditch again formed a wide U-shape, but with slightly steeper edges. The fills consisted of mottled orange brown silty clays and both contained quantities of ceramic building material. The bricks recovered from the ditch were handmade and Tudor to post-medieval in date. The primary fill of the ditch seemed to have consisted of a single episode of dumping with fragments of this material spread evenly throughout the fill. A bone from a large ungulate, showing evidence of butchery, was recovered from this fill. An area of looser material in the centre of the primary fill indicated that a posthole had been set through it. This may have been contemporary with [46].

## 5.4 TRENCH 4 (FIGS 2 & 3)

Trench 4 was aligned east-north-east by west-south-west and measured 70m long, 1.5m wide and was excavated to a depth of approximately 0.6m. The topsoil horizon (61) was between 0.2 to 0.4m deep: this overlaid the subsoil (62), which was between 0.16 and 0.28m in depth. The natural (74) was the same as in trench 3. The trench was positioned to intercept the eastern and western arms of the rectangular enclosure, located by the geophysical (GSB 2002) and cropmark surveys (JSAC 2002b).

Two ditches were discovered within the excavated trench, however, both were positioned in the eastern half. A shallow gully was found in the western end of the trench. One of the ditches in the eastern half of the trench, [8], measured 1.2m wide by 0.57m deep and formed

a wide V-shaped profile, and appeared to cut the subsoil (Fig 3). Its fill was very homogenous light brown yellow fine sandy silt with occasional fragments of mollusc shell. No pottery was recovered from this feature.

Situated 2.5m to the east of this feature was a large ditch. This had two distinct phases (Fig 3). The earliest phase, [16], was not excavated to its full depth, but was at least 0.75m deep. It appeared to have had a wide, stepped profile. The fill was a stiff mid bluish grey silty clay. This ditch appeared to be re-cut by [10], which was 3.55m wide and 0.97m deep and cut the subsoil. The profile was a wide U-shape with slightly stepped edges. The two uppermost fills were largely made up of yellow brown sandy silts, while the primary fill was a dark grey brown clay silt. A single sherd of abraded pottery dated to the thirteenth to fifteenth was recovered from the uppermost fill. An amorphous feature [13] was situated to the east of and cut by ditch [10]. This appeared to be a tree bole.

The shallow gully [44] to the west of the trench was aligned with the crop in the field and corresponded to similar features found in trenches 7 and 8 and may relate to ploughing methods. Part of the base of a modern glass bottle was retrieved from this feature.

## 5.5 TRENCH 5 (FIGS 2, 4 & 5)

Trench 5 was aligned north-north-west by south-south-east, measuring 20m long, 1.5m deep, and was excavated to a depth of approximately 0.4m. The topsoil (66) was equivalent to that found in trench 1 and overlaid subsoil (67), which was again, as in trench 1. This overlaid orange brown fine sandy silts which was laminated with orange brown clay silts (75). This trench was positioned to intercept a north-east by south-west aligned ditch which had been located through the geophysical survey (GSB 2002).

A ditch [34] and a shallow gully [32] were found in this trench upon excavation. The ditch [34] was located about 8 m from the southern end of the trench and was 1.55m wide and 0.7m deep, aligned approximately north-east by south-west (Figs 4 & 5: Section 6, Plate 3). It formed a wide V-shape in profile and was filled by yellow brown and grey brown fine sandy silts. No finds were recovered from this feature. The shallow gully [32] was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 0.75m wide and 0.22m deep with a wide V-shaped profile. It had been filled by a dark yellow brown silty clay. No other inclusions were found within the fill.

## 5.6 TRENCH 6 (FIGS 2, 4, 5 & 6)

Trench 6 was aligned approximately north-east to south-west and measured 40m long, 1.5m wide and was excavated to a depth of about 0.45m. The topsoil (65) measured between 0.3 and 0.35m deep and was similar in form to that found in trench 1. The subsoil (66) measured between 0.15 to 0.26m deep and consisted of a mottled orange brown / grey silty clay. This overlay the mottled orange brown alluvial silts and clays (76). This trench was positioned to intercept two ditches identified on the geophysical survey (GSB 2002). Both ditches were located in the excavated trench. The ditch positioned to the west of the trench had two distinct phases (Figs 4 & 5: Section 7). The earliest phase, [30], measured 0.8m deep, had fairly steep sides with a flat base and was filled by homogeneous orange / grey brown fine sandy silts. It was aligned approximately north to south. Its eastern edge was cut by ditch [41], which was 1.65m wide, 1.1 m deep and was aligned north-north-east to south-southwest. The profile of this ditch formed a narrow V-shape with a flat base and was filled by sandy silts similar to ditch [30]. No pottery was recovered from the earlier ditch but an abraded sherd from the upper fill of [41] was dated to the thirteenth to fifteenth centuries. To the east of the trench ditch [25] was excavated, this measured 2.65m wide and 0.95m deep (Figs 4 & 6: Section 8). Its profile formed a wide U-shape, but its fills were very similar in make-up to ditches [30] and [41], being homogenous orange / grey fine sandy silts. Five sherds of abraded pottery were recovered from this feature, the latest giving a mid seventeenth to mid eighteenth century date. Brick recovered from the primary fill was Tudor to post-medieval in date. To the east of this ditch a natural feature, [28] was excavated.

## 5.7 TRENCH 7 (FIGS 2 & 4)

Trench 7 was aligned north-west to south-east, and measured 50m long, 1.5m wide and was excavated to a depth of about 0.70 m. The topsoil [67] was 0.3m deep and was similar in form to that in trench 1. The subsoil [68] was 0.14-0.22m in depth and consisted of a orange brown clay silt, this overlaid mottled orange brown silts and clays. No features were present in this trench, excepting several plough marks.

# 5.8 TRENCH 8 (FIGS 2, 4 & 6)

Trench 8 was aligned north-north-west to south-south-east, measured 70m long, 1.5m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.7 m. The topsoil [69] was 0.30 to 0.35m deep and was

similar in form to trench 1, as was the subsoil [70], which was 0.08 to 0.26m deep. Two ditches were found in the trench. The northernmost ditch, [18] was 2.4m wide and 0.75m in depth and aligned approximately north-north-east to south-south-west (Figs 4 & 6: Section 16, Plate 4). It had a U-shaped profile with a flat base. The fills were fairly mixed and the distinctions between them were diffuse, all being grey silty clays with areas of brown mottling to the top of the ditch and more blue mottling to the base. The subsoil appeared to slump into the top of the ditch fill. No finds were recovered from the ditch. The second ditch, [21], 8.5 m to the south of [18] and on a similar alignment, was 1.15m in width and 0.4m in depth, with steep sides and a flat base (Fig 4). It was filled by a stiff bluish grey clay with yellow mottling. No finds were recovered from this ditch. Some evidence of modern plough marks were also recovered from this trench ([23]).

## 5.9 OPEN AREA (FIG 2)

The open area was 20 m square and excavated to a depth of 0.7m. The topsoil and subsoil were the same as in trench 4. No features were found within this area (Plate 1).

#### 6 FINDS

## 6.1 POTTERY

The pottery assemblage was small and all sherds were abraded, some heavily. In total 11 sherds were recovered, one from the subsoil, and the remainder, save one, were found from the very upper fills of features. One sherd was possibly Roman in date but was very abraded; seven sherds were medieval in date, while the remainders were medieval to post-medieval in date (Table 1).

Table 1: Pottery assemblage

Trench No.	Context No.	part	Weight (g)	Date	Description	
1	2	BS	12	13 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	Abraded; Bourne-type Fabrics A, B and C; exterior glaze; Jug/ Jar	
	37	BS	1	13 <sup>th</sup> -14th	Abraded; Bourne-type Fabrics A, B and C	
	37	BS	13	13 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup>	Abraded; Toynton medieval ware, jug	
	37	Rim	8	Roman?	Very abraded; less possibly Iron Age	
	38	BS	6	13 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	Abraded; Bourne-type Fabrics A, B and C; interior glaze; Jar	
4	11	BS	3	13 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup>	Abraded; non local medieval Fabrics; Jug; similar to Bourne Fabric D; moderate voids	
6	26	BS	2	mid 17 <sup>th</sup> - mid 18 <sup>th</sup>	Staffordshire/ Bristol slipware; bowl ?	
	26	Rim	3	12 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup>	Very abraded; medieval local Fabrics;no glaze; hollow everted rim; small jar	
	26	BS	6	14 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup>	Abraded; Toynton/ Bolingbroke Wares; no glaze; bowl	
	26	BS	2	15 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup>	Very abraded; Bourne D Ware; Jug/ Jar	
	26	BS	1	14 <sup>th</sup> –17 <sup>th</sup>	Very abraded; Toynton/ Bolingbroke Wares	

# 6.2 BRICK

Brick fragments were recovered from three contexts, all were handmade and were Tudor or post-medieval in date (Table 2).

Table 2: Brick assemblage

Trench No.	Context No.	Frags	Weight (g)	Date	Description
1 -	37	1	47	Tudor to post-medieval	Handmade; soft red fabric
* 1 / 1	37	2	215	Tudor to post-medieval	Handmade; soft red/black fabric; single brick; corner; straw marks on sides
3	4	1	483	Tudor to post-medieval	Handmade; soft red fabric; corner; white salt surfaces; possible cloth mark on upper surface & strike mark; 63mm thick
· · ·	4	1	403	Tudor to post-medieval	Handmade; soft red fabric; longitudinal raised rib on one edge from mould; raised lip on upper surface; 60mm thick
6	27	1	31	Tudor to post-medieval	Handmade; soft red fabric

#### 7 DISCUSSION

Of the trenches excavated in this evaluation, trenches 2, 5, 6 and 8 intercepted the features located through the geophysical survey (GSB 2002) and the cropmark survey in the specification (JSAC 2002b). In the remaining trenches the expected features did not materialise. In trench 1 a ditch aligned north-south was discovered instead of the two expected east-west aligned "trackway" ditches. It is probable that, since their existence and alignment was confirmed by the two ditches recovered from trench 2, the linear ditch within trench 1 truncated the trackway, or that they terminated either side of this ditch, with the gap forming a probable entrance into the field at this point. Trenches 3, 4 and the open area did not produce the expected features. The enclosure, although clear on the cropmark survey in the specification (JSAC 2002b), was not obvious on the geophysical plot, appearing as a "trend" rather than an obvious archaeological feature. What the ditches refer to therefore cannot be known with certainty, although the ditch in trench 3, [5] may be equivalent to ditch [34] in trench 5 and form a north-east to south-west aligned boundary. Ditch [10] in trench 4 may represent one of the series of north-north-west to south-south-east aligned ditches seen in the cropmarks and geophysics.

No features were apparent in trench 7 and it seems the cropmark evidence may relate to a geological distinction rather than an archaeological one.

Comparing the results of this evaluation with the previous work undertaken to the east of the site (Albone 1999), certain similarities between the two sites emerge. Both sites encountered a series of ditches with silt and clay fills with very little dating evidence, but it is suggested that the features may relate to medieval and later field systems and that the pottery had probably been deposited through manuring of the land. The alignment of certain ditches, especially those aligned north-north-west to south-south-east, are paralleled on both sites and suggest a degree of regularity and a continuation of contemporary field systems over the whole area. The alignments of these ditches are reminiscent of extant field boundaries to the north and east of the site. The Ordnance Survey map of 1906 (JSAC 2001) shows a greater number of ditches with this alignment, and suggests that these ditches may be remnants of an earlier field system.

The fills of most of the ditches were silty and fairly homogeneous, suggesting that they were filled in during relatively dry periods, however, the fills of ditches [5], [16], [21] and the primary fill of ditch [18] had fills more suggestive of wetter periods. James Rackham, environmental specialist, hypothesised that the differing fills may indicate that the ditches were open at different times. The ditches all appear to date from medieval to post-medieval periods or later, but some of them appeared to be sealed by the subsoil, which may indicate that this is relatively recent.

## 8 CONCLUSIONS

This evaluation has further investigated the area surrounding Pinchbeck and has recovered similar results to a previous evaluation to the east of the current site (Albone 1999). This confirms that the immediate area has not been a focus of development in the past for Pinchbeck or other settlements and appears to have been part of a larger agrarian landscape. The pottery assemblage was small and abraded and probably deposited through manuring practises. The brick was primarily recovered from one ditch and seems to relate to discrete episodes of dumping. The information gained from the site was limited, but is in itself indicative of lack of settlement in the immediate area.

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## A1 LIST OF CONTEXTS

Trench No.	Feature type	Context	Description	Depth(m)	Date	
1	Layer	1	Current topsoil; dark yellow brown silty loam	0.3-0.35		
	Layer	2	Current subsoil; dark yellowish brown silty clay	0.08-0.25	-	
	Ditch cut	36	N-S ditch; Steep edges, flat base	0.68	17 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> ?	
	Ditch fill	37	Mid orange brown sandy silt, occ. mottling & charcoal, field drains	0.33	17 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> ?	
	Ditch fill	38	Mid brown grey silty clay, occ. bluish mottling, primary fill of [36]	0.25	17 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> ?	
	Natural	71	Mottled mid orange brown alluvial silts	-	Post-glacial	
2	Layer	57	Current topsoil, as (1)	0.25-0.28	-	
	Layer	58	Current subsoil, dark yellowish brown silty clay, faint orange brown mottling	0.10-0.15	-	
	Ditch cut	48	E-W ditch, fairly steep edges, flat base	0.8	Post-medieval ?	
	Ditch fill	49	Mid orange brown clay silt, very occ. charcoal & very small CBM fragments	0.4	Post-medieval ?	
	Ditch fill	50	Mid orange brown clay silt, occ fine sand & greyish mottling, field drains	0.18	Post-medieval	
	Ditch fill	51	Dark brown grey clay silt, brownish mottling, field drains, primary fill [48]	0.23	Post-medieval	

Trench No.	nch Feature Context Description		Depth(m)	Date	
	Ditch cut	52	E-W ditch, irregular edges, fairly	0.85	Post-
			steep, flat base		medieval?
-	Ditch fill	53	Mid-dark orange brown clay silt,	0.4	Post-
8			very occ. charcoal		medieval?
_ X	Ditch fill	54	Mid-dark reddish brown silty clay,	0.25	Post-
			brown mottling		medieval?
	Ditch fill	55	Dark brownish grey silty clay,	0.32	Post-mediev
			brown mottling, primary fill of [52]		
	Natural	72	Dark orange brown silty clay	-	Post glacial
3	Layer	59	Current topsoil, compact dark	0.10-0.20	-
			yellowish brown silty clay		
V.	Layer	60	Current subsoil, as (2)	0.2-0.4	
1 2 1	Ditch cut	3	E-W ditch, fairly steep edges,	0.8	Post-
	Dittin cat		slightly concave base. Re-cut of [5].	0.0	medieval?
	Ditch fill	4	Mid-dark grey brown clay silt,	0.65	Post-
	Dittilli	7	brown orange mottling, very occ	0.03	medieval?
			charcoal & CBM		incure var:
	Ditch fill	6	Mid-dark orange brown silty clay,	0.15	Post-
	Ditch IIII	0	brown orange mottling, CBM, occ	0.13	medieval?
	2			v	medievai?
	Dist	-	charcoal, primary fill of [5]	*	N 1: 10
	Ditch cut	5	E-W ditch, fairly steep edges,	-	Medieval?
			concave base. Cut by [3]		
	Ditch fill	7	Mid grey brown silty clay, orange	0.3	Medieval?
			brown mottling, very occ charcoal.		
			Primary fill of [5]		
	P/H cut	46	Circular in plan	-	Modern
	P/H fill	47	Dark yellow brown clay silt,		Modern
			original post in situ		
	Natural	73	Mottled mid orange brown clay silt	-	Post glacial
4	Layer	61	Current topsoil, as (1)	0.2-0.4	i <del>e</del>
	Layer	62	Current subsoil, as (58)	0.1-0.2	-
	Ditch cut	8	N-S ditch, fairly steep edges,	0.57	?
			narrow concave base		
	Ditch fill	9	Light brown fine sandy silt, occ	0.57	?
			mottling & shell		
	Ditch cut	10	NW-SE ditch, fairly steep edges,	0.97	Post-
	Diten cut	10	wide concave base. Cuts [16]	0.57	medieval?
	Ditch fill	11	Light-mid yellow brown fine sandy	0.21	Post-
	Ditter iiii	11	silt	0.21	medieval?
	Ditch fill	12	Mid yellow brown clay silt	0.5	Post-
	Ditti IIII	12	Wild yellow blowli clay silt	0.5	medieval?
	Ditch fill	15	Dark grey brown clay silt, orange		medieval:
	Ditch IIII	13			
	Total	12	brown mottling. Primary fill of [10]	0.12	7
	Tree	13	Irregular, shallow edges, flatish	0.12	7
	Throw cut	1.1	base, cuts [16]	0.12	10
	Fill	14	Mid grey brown silty clay, faint	0.12	?
			brown mottling		
	Ditch cut	16	NW-SE ditch, eastern edge	-	Medieval?
			irregular, not completely excavated		
	Ditch fill	17	Mid bluish grey silty clay, brownish	At least 0.25	Medieval?
			mottling		
	Gully cut?	44	N-S gully, shallow edges, concave	0.11	Modern?
			base, plough scar?		
	Gully fill	45	mid-dark orange brown silty clay,	0.11	Modern?
			occ charcoal, glass bottle fragment	decreased water	
	Natural	74	As (73)	-	Post glacial
5	Layer	63	Current topsoil, as (1)	0.30-0.32	- Ust gracial
			i Sullviii www.uli. as (1)	V.JU"U.JZ	

Trench No.			Description	Depth(m)	Date
	Gully cut	32	NW-SE gully, irregular edges, flat base	0.22	?
	Gully fill	33	Mid-dark yellow brown silty clay, very occ charcoal	0.22	?
	Ditch cut	34	ENE-WSW ditch, fairly steep edges, narrow concave base	0.7	?
	Ditch fill	35	Light yellow brown clay silt, very occ charcoal	0.4	?
	Ditch fill	39	Mid brown grey fine sandy silt, orange brown mottling, very occ charcoal. Primary fill of [34]	0.3	?
	Natural	75	Orange brown fine sandy silts	-	Post glacial
6	Layer	65	Dark yellowish brown silty loam	0.30-0.35	-
	Layer	66	Mottled orange brown/ grey silty clay	0.15-0.26	-
	Cut	23	N-S aligned, shallow gully	0.3	Modern?
	Fill	24	Dark yellow brown silty clay	0.3	Modern?
	Ditch cut	25	NNW-SSE ditch, irregular edges, fairly steep, wide concave base	0.95	Post- medieval?
	Ditch fill	26	Mid orange brown fine sandy silt, occ charcoal	0.57	Post- medieval?
	Ditch fill	27	Mid-dark brown grey silty clay, orange brown mottling, very occ mottling. Primary fill of [25]	0.4	Post-medieval
	Natural feature?	28	Irregular, steep edges, flat base	0.25	?
	Fill	29	Laminated mid greyish brown clay silt, brown mottling	0.25	?
	Ditch cut	30	NE-SW ditch, western edge fairly steep, flat base, eastern edge cut by [41]	0.8	Medieval?
	Ditch fill	31	Mid orange brown fine sandy silt, orange mottling	0.3	Medieval?
	Ditch fill	40	Light-mid brown grey fine sandy silt, occ orange mottling. Primary fill of [30]	0.45	Medieval?
	Ditch cut	41	NE-SW ditch, steep edges, flat base, cuts [30]	1.1	Medieval?
	Ditch fill	42	Mid-dark orange brown clay silt, very occ charcoal	0.35	Medieval?
	Ditch fill	43	Mid-dark brown grey fine sandy silt, orange mottling, lense of more clay fill at base. Primary fill of [41]	0.75	Medieval?
	Natural	76	Mottled orange brown silts and clays	-	Post glacial
7	Layer	67	As (1)	0.3	-
	Layer	68	Orange brown loamy silt	0.13-0.22	( <del>-</del>
	Natural	77	As (76)	-	Post Glacial
8	Layer	69	As (1)	0.25-0.35	-
	Layer	70	As (2)	0.08-0.26	-
	Ditch cut	18	NE-SW, shallow edges becoming steeper to base, flat base	0.75	?
	Ditch fill	19	Light brown grey silty, yellow brown mottling. Edges merge with (20)	0.35	?
	Ditch fill	20	Mid brown grey silty clay, orange brown mottling. Primary fill of [18]	0.40	?
	Ditch cut	21	NE-SW ditch, steep edges, flat base	0.40	?

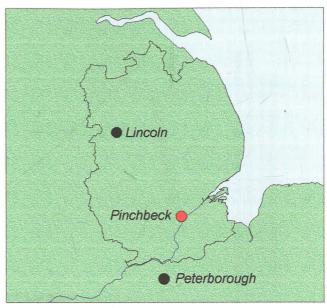
Trench No.	Feature type	Context	Description	Depth(m)	Date
	Ditch fill 22	Stiff mid blue grey clay, yellow mottling	0.40	?	
	Natural	78	As (76)		Post glacial

Northamptonshire Archaeology

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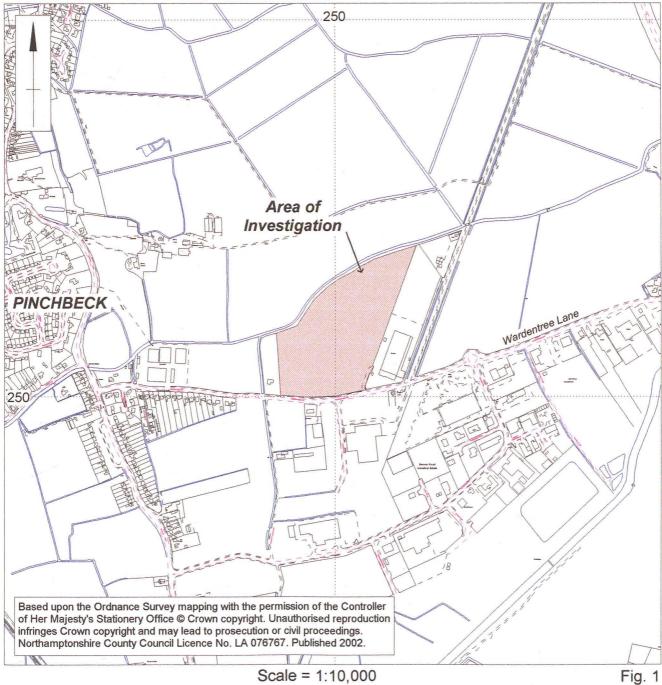
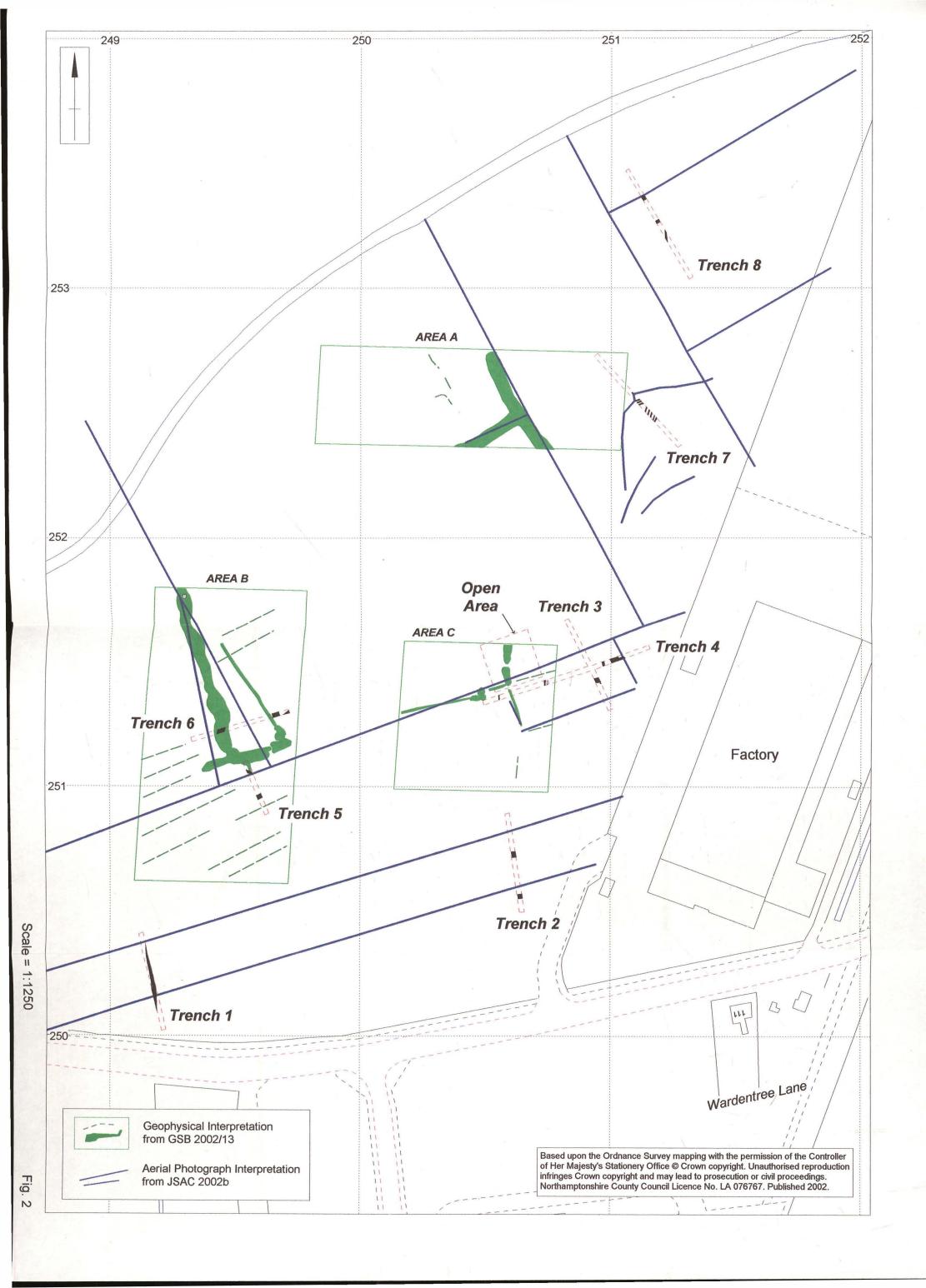
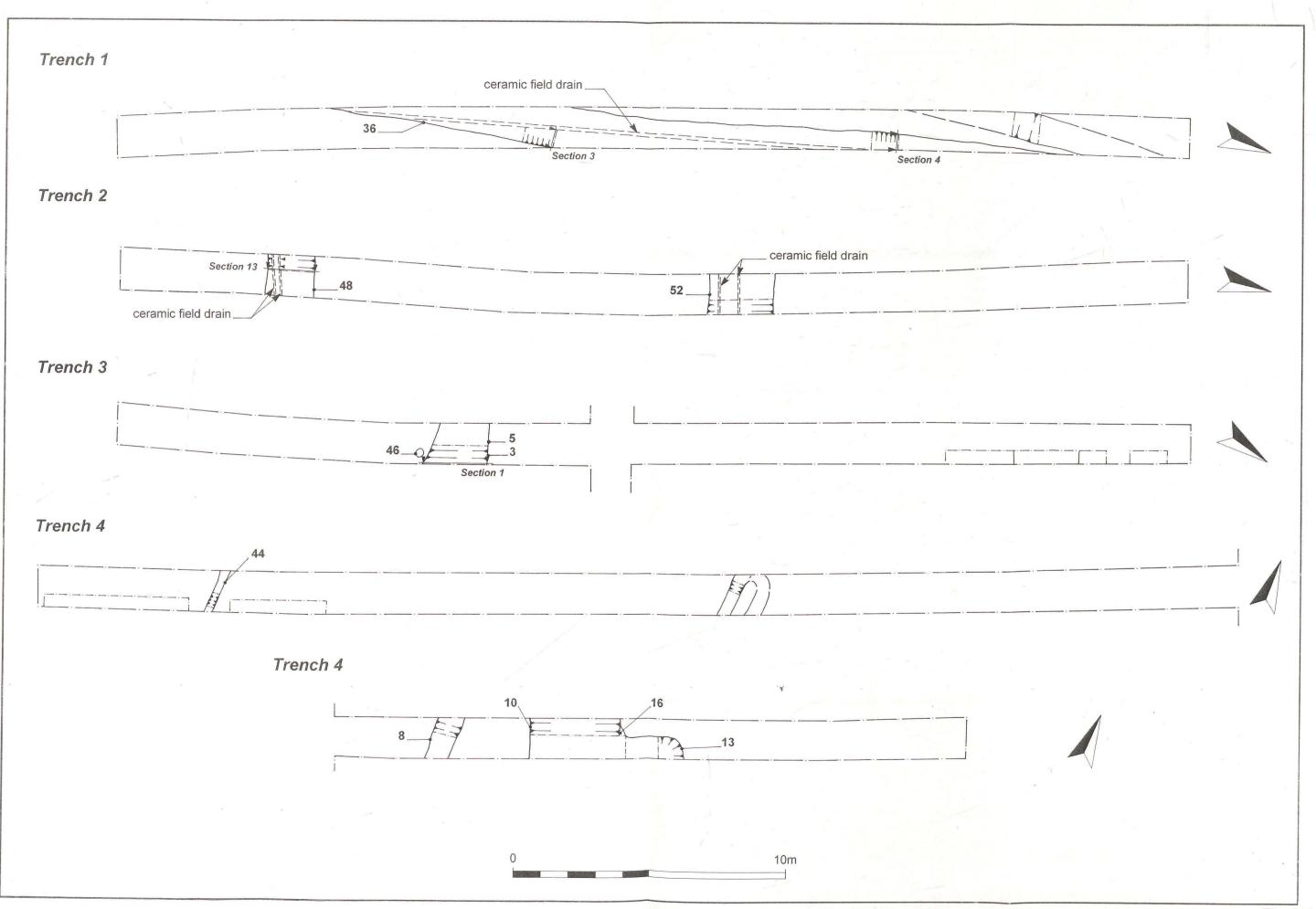


Fig. 1





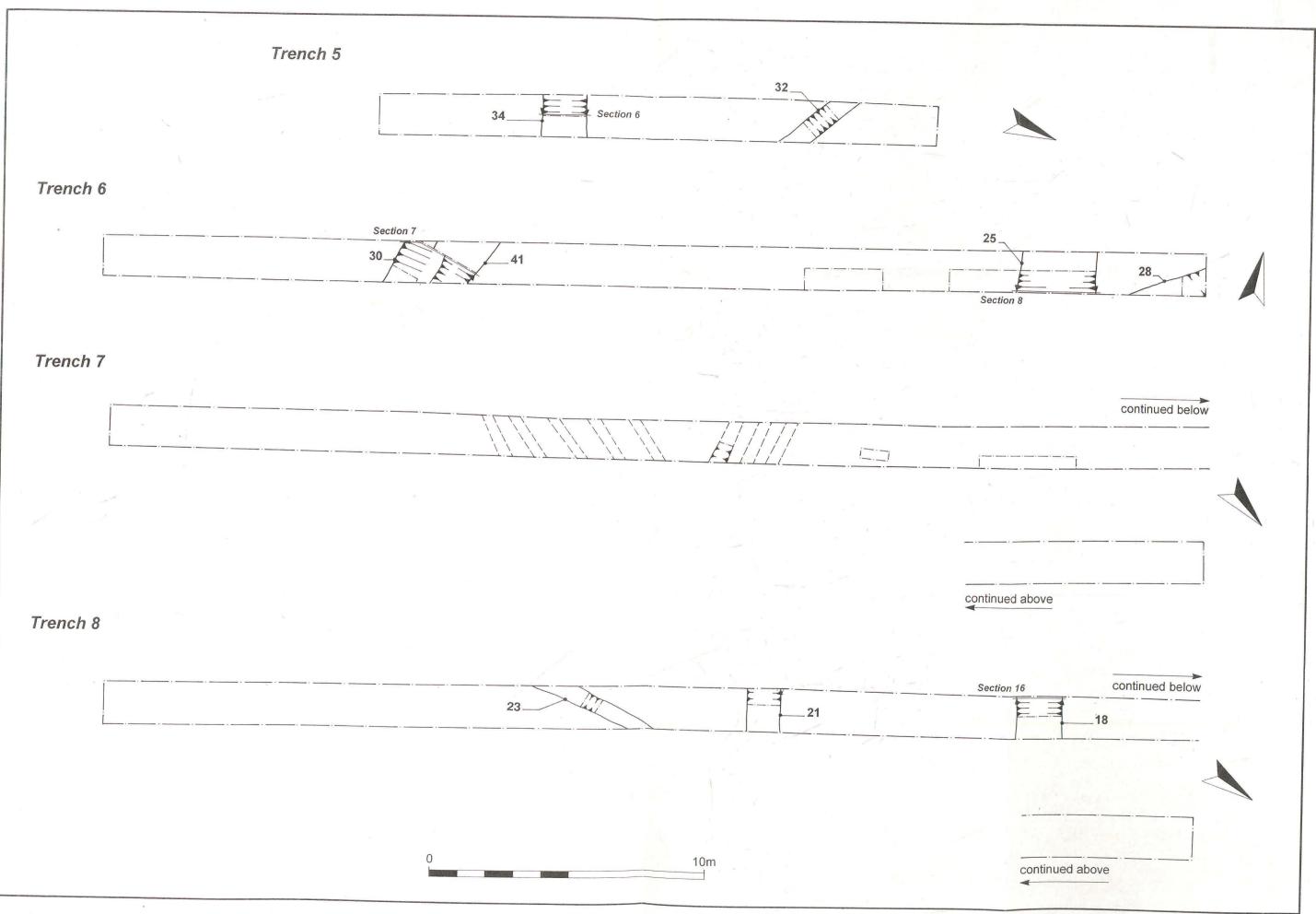


Fig. 4

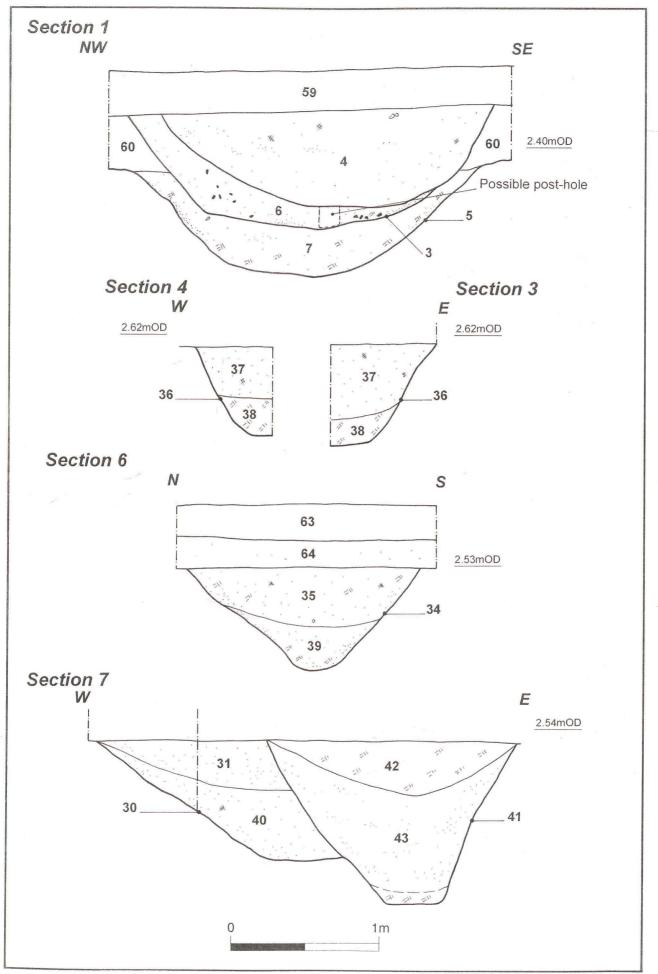


Fig. 5

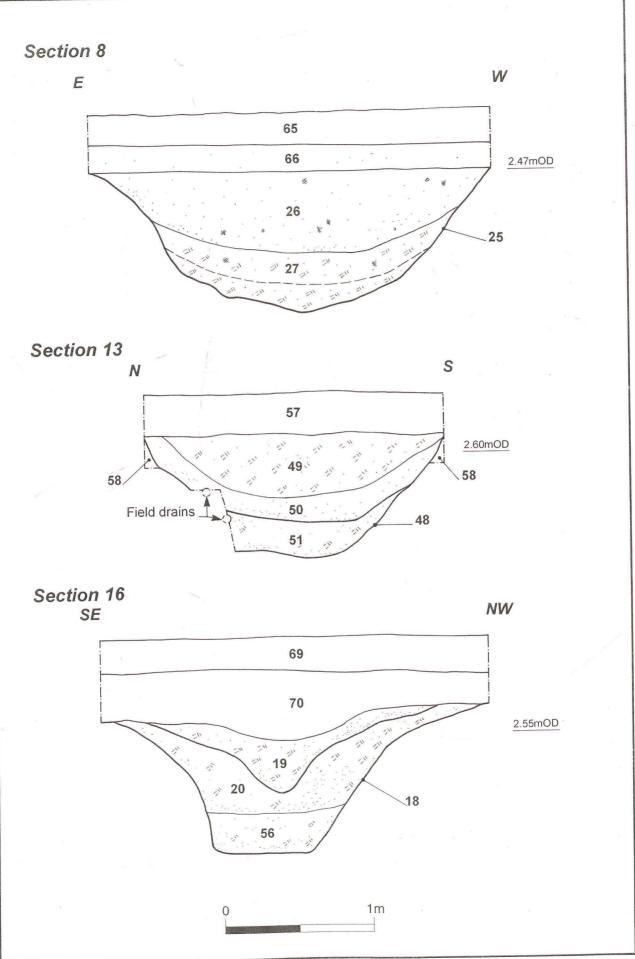


Fig. 6



Plate 2: North - south aligned ditch in Trench 1



Plate 1: Excavation of the open area

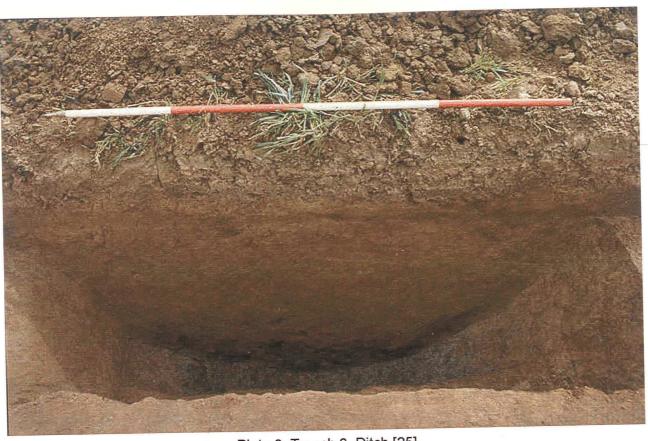


Plate 3: Trench 6, Ditch [25]

